The Park Avenue Synagogue

Bulletin

NOVEMBER 18, 1948 HESHVAN 16, 5708

Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld To Speak Nov. 19th On "Youth and Its Quest for Values."

Jewish Censorship To Be Discussed By Rabbi Kertzer, Friday Evening, Nov. 26th

Rabbi Arthur J. Lelyveld, National Director of *B'nai B'rith Hillel* Foundation will be the first speaker in the Adult Education Committee's Friday Evening series for the new season at the services on November 19th. Rabbi Lelyveld's talk on "Youth and Its Quest for Values" will be followed by an *Oneg Shabbat* in the Vestry at which time the Junior League will act as host.

On Friday evening, November 26th, Rabbi Kertzer will deliver the sermon. His topic for the evening will be "Jewish Censorship—Is It Wise? Is It Effective?" This will be a discussion of the current controversy surrounding the banning of such a film as "Oliver Twist", and the repercussions that have resulted.

Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld

Specialists in Youth Problems

Formerly rabbi of Temple Israel in Omaha, Nebraska, Rabbi Lelyveld is now National Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Unity for Palestine of the Zionist Organization of America. He is a member of the Commission on Justice and Peace of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

Rabbi Lelyveld is well fitted to discuss youth and its problems because he was a founder of the National Federation of Temple Youths and at one time an editor of "The Youth Leader", published by the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

Rabbi Lelyveld is a native New Yorker who attended Columbia University where he received his degree and was elected to Phi Beta Kappa prior to his being ordained a rabbi.

Following Rabbi Lelyveld's sermon, the first *Oneg Shabbat* of the season will take place. Members of the Congregation are urged to attend the sermon and the discussion to follow in the Vestry. This will give everyone an opportunity to meet and discuss this topic with Rabbi Lelyveld. Young people of the Synagogue are particularly urged to attend and take part in the discussion.

Again as in the past, *Sabbath* Eve services will be enriched by the musical accompaniment furnished by Cantor Putterman with the able assistance of the choir, under the direction of Mr. Isadore Geller.

Joint Thanksgiving Services at S. A. J.

In keeping with an annual tradition, members of the Park Avenue Synagogue will join with the Society for Advancement of Judaism in a Thanksgiving Day Service. This year they will be held at the SAJ on Thursday, November 25th, at 11:00 a.m.

The services will be conducted by Rabbi Ira Eisenstein and Rabbi Morris Kertzer. Rabbi Milton Steinberg will deliver the sermon. Of special interest to us is the fact that Rabbi Steinberg will celebrate his 45th birthday on that day.

Federation Drive Seeks Congregation's Support

The Federation of Jewish Philanthropies has started its 1948 campaign. That means that all members of the Congregation must start *now* to think of the many ways in which we can—and must—help in this record drive for $16,500,000. This is our drive, just as it was our own neighbors and friends—480,000 of them—who were aided last year by the Federation's 116 affiliates in health, medical and social welfare fields.

Surely, if our city's Jewish community is to remain the bulwark of Jews everywhere, it is up to us to keep it healthy. That is what we do when we contribute to Federation. So when our

(*Continued on Page 3*)

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sabbath Eve . . . . . Friday, November 19th, 8:30 p.m.
Rabbi Arthur Lelyveld will preach on
"Youth and Its Quest for Values"

Sabbath Eve . . . . . Friday, November 26th, 8:30 p.m.
Rabbi Morris Kertzer will preach on
"Jewish Censorship—Is it Wise? Is it Effective?"

Sabbath Morning . . . . . Saturday Mornings, 10:00 a.m.
Junior Congregation Service at 10:00 a.m.
Musical portion of Service under direction of Cantor Putterman.
assisted by choir. Mr. Isidore Geller at the organ.

Daily Evening Worship . . . . . 5:45 p.m.

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VOL. 3 No. 4

From The Desk of Rabbi Steinberg

THE verse from the *Song of Songs*: "They have made me a keeper of vineyards; but mine own vineyard I have not kept," has come to stand in Jewish folk usage for the situation of those Jews who cultivate all fields of human interest except the Jewish. But it can be applied with equal relevance to a phenomenon within Jewish life, to the unfortunate tendency on the part of some of our most ardent Jews to concentrate their interest so completely on the overseas Jewish scene as to neglect that at home entirely. An old time, ardent, perhaps even *meshugah*, Zionist like myself does not need to protest his concern for Jews abroad in general, for those in Palestine in particular. But the imbalance to which I have just alluded does exist and needs to be corrected.

The very specific occasion for these remarks is the current drive of Federation, and the apathy toward it exhibited by some elements in New York Jewry. Here is an enterprise which embraces well over a hundred Jewish philanthropic, character-building and cultural agencies, including hospitals, orphan asylums, homes for the aged, *Talmud Torahs*, community centers, family service societies and what not else; which, among other things, helps to maintain the Jewish Education Committee which in turn stimulates and directs the whole of the Jewish education of the Jewish children of New York City—and one would suppose, to judge from the indifference of some, that all this touched them not at all.

In actual fact, Federation is both a challenge and an inescapable responsibility on every member of the Jewish community of greater New York. The support of it is an obligation which no one is justified in shirking. To the contrary, its claim on our assistance is urgent not only because of its inherent worth; it is the more urgent by virtue of the fact that operating costs have mounted for Federation agencies as for everyone else, and the further fact that its long-range needs have so long been set aside for more pressing requirements abroad that the backlog of them has grown to proportions too great for further deferment.

I look forward to the consolidation of the State of Israel, to the end of the D.P. problem, to the solution of the problem of Jewish homelessness generally for very many reasons. But not the least among them is the hope that when all these goals shall have been achieved we Jews of America will at last be free to give adequate tendance to our own vineyard, philanthropic, cultural and religious.

Meantime, in this difficult interregnum our duty is clear: without the least diminution of support to the United Jewish Appeal and other overseas causes we must somehow contrive to enlarge our donations to home agencies, Federation preeminent among them. It is to this end that these lines are being written. Should they fulfill their purpose in even one instance, I shall have been more than adequately rewarded for writing, and you for reading them.

So much by way of general comment. Now to talk *tachlis*. The Sisterhood drive on behalf of Federation is now on under the chairmanship of Mrs. Ezra Cohen. Our women have done brilliantly in the past; it is my urgent plea that they do no less well this year.

—MILTON STEINBERG

P. A. Delegates Installed

Mrs. Henry Howe, former and first President of the Parents' Association, and Mr. I. Edward Gevirtz, member of the Executive Board, were installed as officers of the United Jewish Parents' Associations at exercises held on October 28th. in the *B'nai Jeshurun* Community House.

Religious School Class Holds Sabbath Service

In order to encourage more vital interest and active participation among the junior congregants of the Synagogue in *Sabbath* worship, each Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m. a different class in the Sunday School will undertake to conduct the young peoples' services in the Vestry. On Saturday, November 13th, Mr. Halpern's class took part in the initial service of this series. Various members of the class were assigned to read the prayers.

In past years two regular members were selected every week to represent the Rabbi and Cantor. So far this season Ruth Kertzer, Sylvia Schneider, Harriet Levin and Menorah Leibowitz have participated. As usual, the custom of serving *Kiddush* following the services is being continued. Once more all the young people and their friends are urged to attend these *Sabbath* morning services.

Cantata In Production For *Hanukkah* Party

This year, the annual *Hanukkah* party sponsored by the Sisterhood, makes use of a new programming device. A Cantata, "The Seven Golden Buttons," by Judith K. and Ira Eisenstein will be presented. This Cantata is based on an old *Hasidic* tale. The music and choir will be under the direction of Cantor David J. Putterman. Miss Leah Crohn will aid in the direction.

Mrs. I. Edward Gevirtz, Chairman of the *Hanukkah* celebration, is seeking the assistance of members of the Congregation who are qualified and willing to work in this production. Please contact Mrs. Gevirtz, at 9 East 96th Street, if you wish to take part.

Plan to spend Sunday evening, December 26th at the Synagogue for a meaningful and memorable *Hanukkah*. Save the date!

Donation Appreciated

A vote of deep thanks has been tendered to Mrs. Eugene Picker. She was the thoughtful donor of a large carton of candy, sufficient to fill 150 bags for the children who attended the *Simhath Torah* Consecration services.

MEN'S CLUB PLANNING FIRST THEATER PARTY

Dec. 8th "Bravo" Tickets Available for Purchase by Congregants

The first Theatre Party sponsored by any Synagogue organization in many years will take place Wednesday evening, December 8th, when the Men's Club of the Synagogue has its Theatre Party. The show is "Bravo," the latest Edna Ferber-George S. Kaufman play. Produced by Max Gordon, the star of the show is Oscar Homolka whom we all remember for his excellent performance in "I Remember Mama." "Bravo" will be seen at the Lyceum Theatre, 45th Street, East of Broadway.

Tickets for the show will be priced moderately. The orchestra will be $12.50, $10, and $8, while seats in the balcony will cost from $7.50 to $4. This price includes the box office price and the additional contribution. The Men's Club will use the proceeds to further its communal affairs and its support of worthwhile charities. Chairman of the Theatre Party is Mr. Archie Thurman. As the house is small, anyone who plans to go and has not as yet contacted Mr. Thurman should do so immediately.

Unusual Program Presented

Last Tuesday's get-together on the 16th, was an attempt by the Men's Club to get away from the usual type of program and to enable the members to better acquaint themselves with each other. The success of this meeting has led the Executive Committee to plan other "different" evenings so that the "stereotyped" evening program may be avoided. All suggestions are requested by Mr. Joseph H. Katz, Chairman of the Program Committee.

If you haven't yet joined the Men's Club, you are urged to contact Mr. Herman Baskind, Chairman of Membership. The goal of the Men's Club is to have every male congregant a member.

Young Marrieds B Meet

The next meeting of this group will be held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Fleischer, 118 East 76 Street on Tuesday evening. November 30th at 8:30 p.m. They will continue their discussion of "Israel Today", with a second speaker from the State of Israel.

Sisterhood Speaks

Rabbi Milton Steinberg was the guest speaker at the Sisterhood's monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 16th. A desert lunch was served to a large, enthusiastic audience.

The Sisterhood has a new and important project, knitting for Israel. All members who can knit well are urged to volunteer their services to make socks, gloves and scarves for members of the Israeli Army and Navy. Cash donations for wool are also very much needed. Mrs. Harold Osserman and Mrs. Dorothy Gellert are Co-Chairmen of this project and all Sisterhood members are requested to contact them any Wednesday at the Synagogue for further details.

The Sisterhood again wishes to remind its members that Wednesday is Park Avenue Synagogue Day at the New York Guild for the Jewish Blind. Contact Mrs. Milton Sivek if you can serve.

Open Meeting Held By Parents' Association

The first Open Meeting of the Parents' Association ushered in the new season of activity with a spirited symposium on "Our School in Relation to Your Child". Arranged by Mrs. Henry Howe, Chairman of the Program Committee, the discussion was organized by three specialists on the subject, each presenting his own experiences. Mr. Martin Leichtling, our Principal presented "Problems of Curriculum"; Mr. Saul Godwin, Chairman of the School Board, revealed "Problems of Operation"; and Mrs. Dorothy Geller, who dealt with "Problems of the Jewish Parent", answered particularly "What Does the Parent Expect from the School". Rabbi Kertzer was the moderator.

Federation Drive

(*Continued from Page* 1)

Federation volunteer calls on you, remember the rising costs and mounting deficits which make this year's goal an absolute minimum. Base your gift on the urgent need for NOT LESS SERVICE, BUT GREATER GENEROSITY. The Chairman of the Park Avenue Synagogue team is Mrs. Ezra Cohen, 152 East 94th Street—Sa. 2-7654.

Adult Education Courses For Home Study Listed

The Adult Education program for the year is now well in progress under the chairmanship of Mr. Harold Levin, and the general direction of Mrs. Abraham Geller and Mrs. Harold Starkman. Every member of the Congregation will have been reached by the committee and invited to participate in the home study program. The meetings will be held in the homes of members of the group, one evening each month. The fees will be $5.00 per couple, or $3.00 per person.

Courses Offered

The following courses are available this year:

Religion and Psychiatry I
Dr. Mortimer Ostow

Religion and Psychiatry II (cont'd)
Dr. Mortimer Ostow

Comparative Religion
Rabbi Morris N. Kertzer

Israel Today
A Panel of Israelis

Bible: The Literary Prophets
Rabbi Simon Noveck

Current Events: The Jewish Angle
Rabbi Arthur Zuckerman

Concepts of Jewish Law I
Rabbi Emanuel Rackman

Concepts of Jewish Law II (cont'd)
Rabbi Emanuel Rackman

Jewish Music
Cantor David Putterman

Beginners' Hebrew
Mrs. Herman Weiss

Intermediate Hebrew
Miss Belle Sicherman

Please notice that the Hebrew courses will be conducted once each week, in the morning.

Religions Studied By Young Marrieds A

The Young Marrieds A group met at the home of Rabbi and Mrs. Kertzer to formulate plans for the year. Several significant decisions were made. The group will meet every fourth Sunday, the next meeting to take place in the Lyttle home. 40 East 88th Street on Sunday. November 21st at 8:00 p.m., with Bob and Ruth Lyttle Satter as hosts. The members have planned to follow a course of study in the field of Comparative Religion, in cooperation with the Adult Education Committee.

The new secretary of the group is Mrs. Lawrence Bangser.

Junior League Events

The Junior League is proud to announce that it has contributed $80 to Materials for Israel, Inc., the organization which is raising money to buy woolen yarn for the making of warm knitted goods for the Israeli Army and Navy. Money for this purpose was urgently requested in the last issue of the BULLETIN.

The next social of the Junior League will take place Sunday afternoon, November 21st in the Vestry when the League presents a Thanksgiving Dance. Once again Jeno Bartal and his orchestra will provide the music for the dance which starts at 3 p.m. Admission will be $1.50 per person and the dance is under the co-Chairmanship of Miss Jane Apirian and Mr. George Spencer. All the young people are cordially invited to attend. Proceeds of this affair will go to charity.

Hosts at Oneg Shabbat

On Friday evening, November 19th, when Dr. Arthur Lelyveld will be the guest speaker in the Synagogue, the Junior League will act as hosts and hostesses at the *Oneg Shabbat* to follow. As his topic "Youth and Its Quest for Values" is directed toward the young people of the Synagogue, it is hoped that members of the League and all of the young people of the Congregation will attend the service and participate in the discussion to be held during the *Oneg Shabbat.*

The League will be one of the groups participating in the Home Study Courses sponsored by the Committee on Adult Education. The topic to be discussed will be "Israel Today," with native Israeli experts talking on various phases of life in Israel such as Politics, Religion, Arab Relations, Industry, Trade etc. This course will start early in December. Louis I. Heller, Vice-President of the League, is in charge of the program and Junior League members who wish to take the course should contact him.

Attendance Record Set

Congratulations to Class 6A for having had perfect attendance on two consecutive Sundays during the month of October! Classes 3A and 4 each achieved the goal of one hundred percent attendance once during the month.

MR. I. B. OSEAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Two Junior League Members Named as National YPL Officers

Mr. Israel B. Oseas, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Park Avenue Synagogue and Chairman of the Ritual Committee was elected as President of the Metropolitan Council of the United Synagogue of America at its last meeting held on November 7th.

The election of Mr. Oseas, who previously served as Secretary of the Metropolitan Council in 1946, is a signal honor to the Park Avenue Synagogue as Judge Bernard Botein, former chairman of the Board of Trustees, served as President of the Metropolitan Council for the 1946-47 year. The Metropolitan Council was organized a few years ago to further the efforts of the United Synagogue of America, the national organization of the conservative Jewish organization in the New York area.

Two officers of the Junior League have been appointed to positions in the Young People's League of the United Synagogue of America. Mr. Dudley Greenstein, President of the Junior League, has been named Chairman of the YPL's 22nd National Convention to be held in Atlantic City in April, and Miss Selma Jerskey, one of the League's Vice-Presidents, has been appointed Corresponding Secretary of National YPL.

Urge Purchase of Books For Jewish Book Month

The annual celebration of Jewish Book Month reminds us once more of the need for replenishing our shelves with books of Jewish interest and value. The Jewishness of a home is often reflected in the kind of library the family possesses.

In the last issue of the Bulletin there was a description of the Jewish Book Fair held at the Synagogue. The Congregation is reminded that it is possible to procure books throughout the year through Mrs. Seymour Wimpfheimer, Chairman of the Library Committee of the Parents' Association.

Nov. 27th Date Of Second Teen-Age Dance

Due to the great success of the first Teen Age Dance, another one will be sponsored by the Parents' Association on Saturday evening, November 27th. Dick Kraus will again do the calling and admission will be by invitation only.

Mrs. I. Edward Gevirtz, Chairman, will appreciate assistance from the teen agers who wish to volunteer, to make posters or to help with the decorating. They are asked to contact either Steve Selig or Judy Kaplan who will serve as the liaison between the teen agers and the Dance Committee.

Anniversary

Very best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Klein who celebrated their thirty-seventh wedding anniversary on October 25th.

Birthday

We extend congratulations to Rabbi Steinberg on his birthday, November 25th.

Death

Condolences are extended to the Schoen family and to the family of Sadie Collier on their loss of Mrs. Sarah Collier, mother of Mrs. Louise Schoen and of the late Milton Collier.

Peter Miller, son of Judge and Mrs. Julius Miller and a member of our Congregation in his own right, was graduated recently from Yale Law School with the highest grade of the class for the Senior year.

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